What is claimed is:

1. An aqueous pigment paste free from binders and grinding resins, comprising based on its overall amount
   (A) from 15 to 25% by weight of at least one mica pigment,
   (B) from 0.45 to 0.75% by weight of at least one nonassociative thickener comprising at least one methacrylate copolymer based on C_1-C_6 alkyl (meth)-acrylate and (meth)acrylic acid,
   (C) from 0.1 to 0.4% by weight of at least one organic amine,
   (D) from 0.1 to 12% by weight of at least one nonionic surfactant, and
   (E) at least 50% by weight of water.

2. The paste as claimed in claim 1, comprising based on its overall amount from 18 to 23% by weight of at least one mica pigment (A).

3. The paste as claimed in claim 1 or 2, comprising based on its overall amount from 0.5 to 0.7% by weight of at least one nonassociative thickener (B).

4. The paste as claimed in any of claims 1 to 3, wherein the thickener (B) contains in copolymerized form at least two different C_1-C_6 alkyl (meth)acrylate monomers.

5. The paste as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4, wherein the thickener (B), based on its overall amount, contains from 40 to 60% by weight of methacrylic acid in copolymerized form.

6. The paste as claimed in any of claims 1 to 5, wherein the organic amine (C) is selected from the group of the tertiary amines.

7. The paste as claimed in claim 6, wherein the tertiary amine (C) is selected from the group of the hydroxylalkylamines.

8. The paste as claimed in claim 7, wherein the hydroxyalkylamine (C) is dimethylethanolamine.

9. The paste as claimed in any of claims 1 to 8, comprising based on its overall amount the organic amine (C) in an amount of from 0.2 to 0.3% by weight.

10. The paste as claimed in any of claims 1 to 9, comprising based on its overall amount the nonionic surfactant (D) in an amount of from 0.5 to 10% by weight.

11. The paste as claimed in any of claims 1 to 10, comprising based on its overall amount at least 55% by weight of water.

12. The use of an aqueous pigment paste free from binders and grinding resins, as claimed in any of claims 1 to 11, for preparing aqueous effect, or color and effect, coating materials.

13. The use as claimed in claim 12, wherein the aqueous coating materials are aqueous basecoat materials.

14. The use as claimed in claim 12 or 13, wherein the aqueous coating materials serve for producing multicoat effect, or color and effect, paint systems.

15. A process for preparing an aqueous effect or color and effect coating material by mixing at least one pigment paste with at least one aqueous mixing varnish comprising at least one water-soluble and/or -dispersible binder and homogenizing the resulting mixture, which comprises using at least one aqueous pigment paste free from binders and grinding resins, as claimed in any of claims 1 to 12, in an amount such that the resulting aqueous effect or color and effect coating material comprises based on its overall amount
    - from 2 to 6% by weight of at least one mica pigment (A),
    - from 0.1 to 2% by weight of at least one nonassociative thickener (B) comprising at least one methacrylate copolymer based on C_1-C_6 alkyl (meth)-acrylate and (meth)acrylic acid, and
    - from 0.02 to 2.4% by weight of at least one nonionic surfactant (D).

16. The process as claimed in claim 15, wherein the binder is selected from the group consisting of random, alternating and block, linear, branched, and comb addition

(co)polymers of ethylenically unsaturated monomers or polyaddition resins and/or polycondensation resins.

17. The process as claimed in claim 16, wherein the addition (co)polymers of ethylenically unsaturated monomers are selected from the group consisting of (meth)acrylate (co)polymers and partially hydrolyzed polyvinyl esters, especially (meth)acrylate copolymers, and the polyaddition resins and/or polycondensation resins are selected from the group consisting of polyesters, alkyds, polyurethanes, polylactones, polycarbonates, polyethers, epoxy resin-amine adducts, polyureas, polyamides, polyimides, polyester-polyurethanes, polyether-polyurethanes, and polyester-polyether-polyurethanes, especially polyester-polyurethanes.